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Vietnam Grain and Feed Rice Weekly Update 2004

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Report Highlights: Vietnam rice prices (both export and domestic) continue to go up due to tighter supplies of export quality rice. The tight supply situation arises from movement of rice from the Mekong River Delta (MRD) production areas to drought-hit regions in the North and Central regions of Vietnam. Moreover, MRD farmers hold paddy stock expecting prices to go even higher.

Includes PSD Changes: No Includes Trade Matrix: No Unscheduled Report Hanoi [VM1] [VM]

Indicative price (Week ending Mar. 26, 2004)

Vietnam rice export prices (FOB basis) for various grades

Grade								Period Averages	
% Broken	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	Current	Previous
								Average	(Mar.19)
5	231	231	232	235	236	238	238	234.43	226.43
10	227	227	228	230	230	232	232	229.43	222.43
15	223	223	224	224	224	226	226	224.29	218.86
25	217	217	218	218	218	220	220	218.29	214.29

Source: Average indicative prices from exporters

Although the harvest of the main Winter-Spring (W-S) rice is over, the supply of exportable rice has not improved. Some movement of rice from the MRD to drought-hit regions of the country is reducing exportable supplies.

Vietnam's rice export prices are ever soaring. The export rice prices increased by \$7-8/mt compared with prices quoted last week as farmers hold their paddy expecting even higher prices. The indicative prices listed above are quite variable and no supplier is offering a firm quotation.

Domestic paddy prices also were up by VND 100-150/kg (or \$7-10/mt) compared with a week before.

Exports

The following are reported rice exports from Mar. 13 to Mar. 19, 2004

Week ending	Quantity	4-WK Avg.	Year to date	Year ago
Feb. 20	57,350	38,400	165,000	253,300
Feb. 27	36,100	43,988	201,100	330,150
Mar. 05	68,200	53,687	269,300	445,000
Mar. 12	85,700	61,838	355,000	520,000
Mar. 19	84,000	68,500	439,000	618,000

Vietnam was not able to accept NFA's new offer of additional rice shipments to the Philippines because of the shortage of export quality supplies.